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NEWS RELEASE

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SIZZLING RECORD HIGH LOTTERY JACKPOT

BISMARCK – A record lottery jackpot is up for grabs by North Dakota players, but it's not Powerball this time.

The jackpot for Saturday's Hot Lotto drawing is \$9.55 million, the largest prize ever offered in the game. The Hot Lotto jackpot has not been won since December 2003 and has rolled over for 71 draws. The probability that the \$9.55 million jackpot will be won in Saturday's Hot Lotto drawing is over 90%. "This may never happen again in Hot Lotto history. The current jackpot amount is unusually high, considering the odds," said Chuck Keller, North Dakota Lottery director.

The Hot Lotto jackpot starts at \$1 million and grows until someone wins it. Hot Lotto drawings are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays, just after the Powerball drawings, and tickets cost one dollar. Overall odds to win a prize are 1 in 16 and 1 in 10.9 million to win the jackpot.

"Someone's going to win the jackpot very soon, and we want it to be a player from North Dakota," said Keller. Hot Lotto tickets are currently sold in North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, South Dakota, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. Since June 24, 2004, when Hot Lotto started in North Dakota, there have been 62,953 North Dakota winners for a total of \$232,542 in prizes.

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